

SP-743/2012-13

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Report Card 2010-11



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SPEAKER'S MESSAGE

As we wrap up the 10-year anniversary of the School at the Legislature program, I am filled with immense pride and endless gratitude for the many individuals who have contributed to the program's success.

Over the course of the program's first decade we have welcomed numerous sponsors, whose support has not only kept the program running but helped the program grow and expand into the success it is today. I'd like to recognise the participation and ingenuity of Alberta teachers. Through teacher involvement and feedback we have created a fun and engaging learning experience that is unique and second to none. Last but not least, to the thousands of students who have populated our classroom and lit up the Legislature with their energy and enthusiasm, thank you. Through the program we strive to inspire in Alberta's youth an interest in active citizenship and the legislative process. In return Alberta's Grade 6 students inspire us to continue to build a better province for the future.

As you read through the program's annual report card, you will notice student letters as well as parent and teacher testimonials. Knowing that together we have created meaningful learning opportunities for countless students is a source of pride for the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.




Ken Kowalski

*The Honourable Ken Kowalski
MLA, Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta*

THE PROGRAM

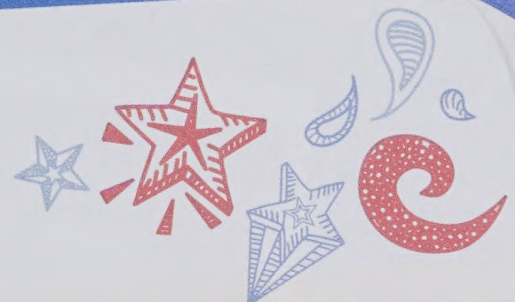




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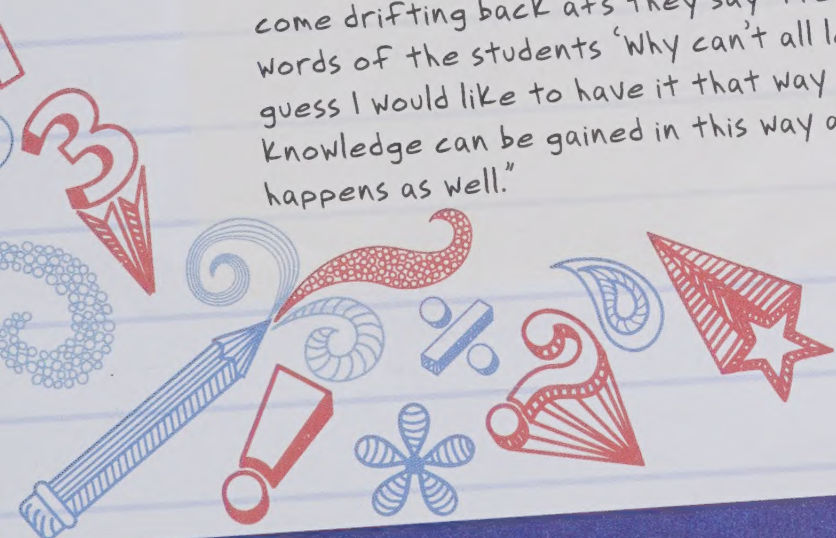
THE PROGRAM

The School at the Legislature program gives Grade 6 teachers from across Alberta the opportunity to move their classroom to the Alberta Legislature for an entire week. Studies of Alberta's system of governance are made fun and easy through first-hand observation and discovery. Students are able to create meaningful connections to the real world through tours and interviews with MLAs and LAO staff. These experiences can be directly tied to the Grade 6 social studies curriculum.



★ "What an amazing and memory filled week the students experienced. They explored from the top of the dome to the underground tunnels. The students will find that as they travel through life the memories of their experience will come drifting back as they say 'I remember when'. In the words of the students 'Why can't all learning be like this?' I guess I would like to have it that way as well. However, not all knowledge can be gained in this way and so the book learning happens as well."

SATL Teacher





PROGRAM OBJECTIVES





PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Provide students with a memorable and fun-filled learning experience of Alberta's parliamentary democratic process
- Facilitate interdisciplinary learning experiences at the Legislature that complement the Alberta curriculum
- Convey to the educational community and the public that the Legislature and the parliamentary process belong to them
- Provide Members of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly staff an opportunity to participate in the learning experience of children



YEAR IN REVIEW





YEAR IN REVIEW

Approximately 1,390 students, teachers and volunteers from across the province participated in the 2010-11 SATL year. Classes from Wetaskiwin, Smoky Lake, Rivière Qui Barre, Clyde, Boyle, Fawcett, Mundare, La Crête, Hays, Jasper and Edmonton came to experience a real-world view of the institution of parliament and the people behind today's headlines.

The Legislature community welcomed these classes with dynamic sessions providing students an opportunity to experience government, the legislative process and citizenship first-hand. Students, teachers and volunteers became active observers and participants while the Legislature community enjoyed the connection.

The success of the School at the Legislature program could not have been accomplished without the support of community partners CKUA Radio Network, Priority Printing Limited, CTV and the Rotary Club of Edmonton. These partners provided a wide spectrum of sponsorship, which included print and promotional material and television and radio advertisements, as well as funds to help an out-of-town class attend SATL. With this support we were able to provide a unique learning experience for Alberta students.

2010 marked SATL's 10th anniversary. To celebrate this milestone, teachers and students who attended SATL in the year 2000, along with sponsors and the Legislature community, were invited to a celebratory luncheon. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly welcomed and thanked all guests. Remarks on the impact SATL had on their lives were provided by a former teacher and a former student from SATL year 2000.



LET'S TALK



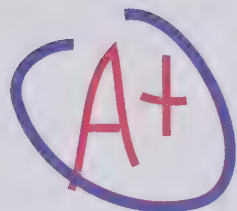
LET'S TALK

Using the Legislature Building site as a catalyst, students sail through the building on a journey of discovery that docks at the Legislature Chamber, the office of the Lieutenant Governor, the underground tunnels, the magic spot and beyond. Along the way they participate in parliamentary debates, sketch the Legislature's grand rotunda, analyze form in nature and create newspaper collages. During the week-long program students also meet MLAs and Legislative Assembly staff to learn about the roles and responsibilities of people who constitute the Legislature community, allowing them to become familiar with the names and faces they read about on a political level. Connecting with these people is a special part of the SATL experience.

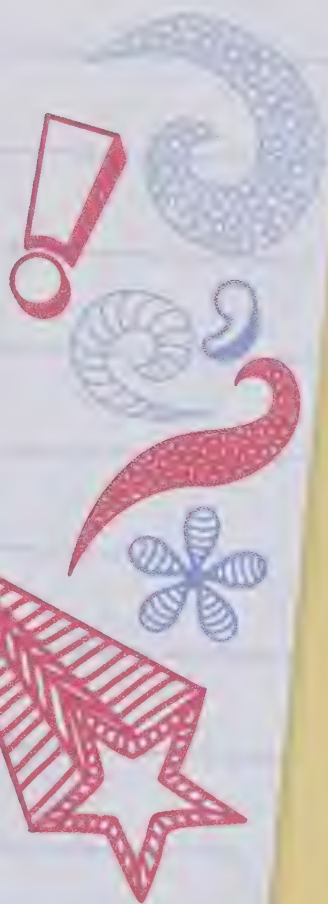


We would like to thank the following offices for their support and for offering interview sessions and presentations that help contribute to a holistic understanding of the democratic system.

- The Speaker's Office
- The Clerk of the Assembly
- The Clerk Assistant/Director of House Services
- Clerk of Journals/Table Research
- Parliamentary Counsel
- Financial Management/Administrative Services
- Alberta Hansard
- Legislature Library
- Human Resource Services



- Information Technology Services
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Visitor Services
- Security Operations
- The Lieutenant Governor's Office
- The Premier's Office
- Government Members
- Liberal Opposition Members
- New Democrat Opposition Members
- Independent Members
- Department of Infrastructure
- Press Offices
 - Chief Electoral Officer
 - Ombudsman
- Office of the Auditor General
- Ethics Commissioner
- Information and Privacy Commissioner





POSSIBLE TOPICS/ACTIVITIES





POSSIBLE TOPICS/ACTIVITIES

The stimulus for an inquiry could, among other possibilities, be an intriguing fieldwork problem, a complex “real-life” case study or an interesting research question. While on site students enjoy the freedom to participate in many activities, some of which are outlined below.

Social Studies

- Participate in a parliamentary debate
- Study the three levels of government and include trips to city hall and Canada Place
- Learn how people take part in elections and the legislative process
- Find out about citizen rights and responsibilities
- Create a map of Alberta’s constituencies
- Investigate the underlying principles of democracy in Canada

Language Arts

- Create personal journals
- Practise note taking during interviews
- Write newspaper articles and develop a class newsletter
- Prepare reports and presentations based on interviews
- Learn how the media collects and distributes information



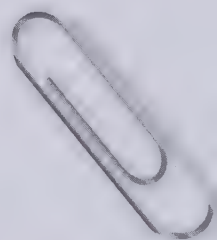


Art

- Sketch aspects of the Legislature Building
- Observe and critique the artwork and symbolism of the grounds' monuments
- Create collages related to the week's experiences
- Explore the architecture and symbols of the Legislature Building

Science

- Participate in nature walks
- Identify trees and vegetation on the Legislature Grounds



Math

- Measure and graph sizes and shapes on the Legislature Grounds
- Learn about the use of budgets, charts and graphs

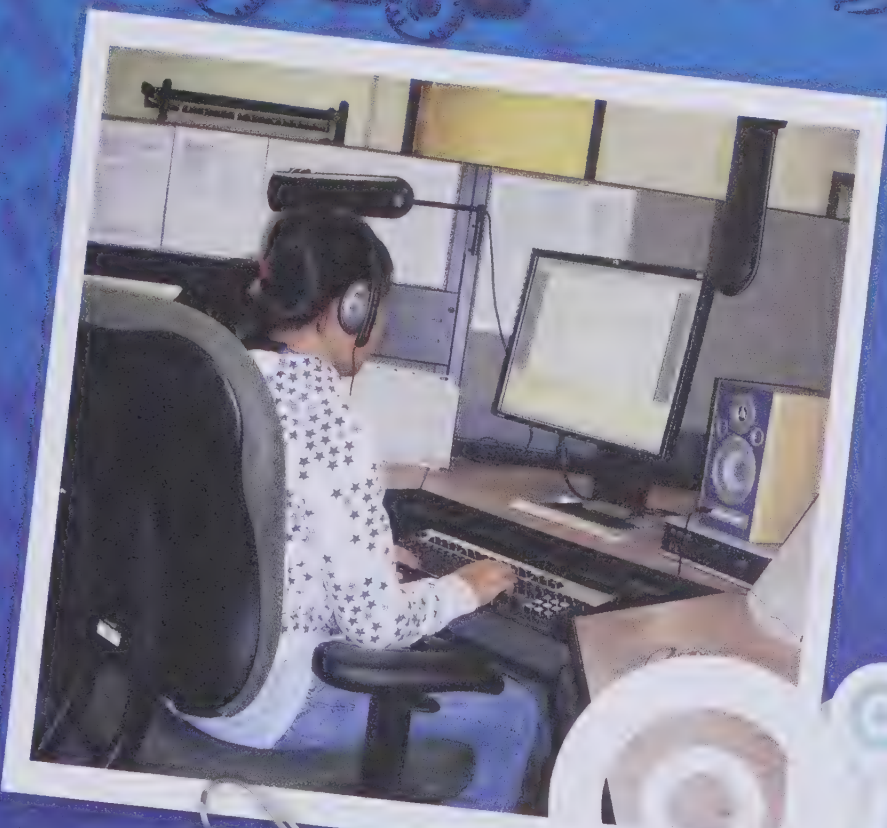
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Take the Health Walk Loops in the Legislature pedway
- Go on self-guided tours of the Legislature Grounds
- Have a scavenger hunt
- Skate in the winter months
- Walk every day

CAREERS

- Learn about careers at the Legislature
- Find out how school habits contribute to success in the workplace

GETTING THE WORD OUT





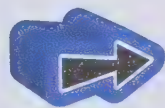
GETTING THE WORD OUT

We continue to investigate and utilize different resources to reach students in Alberta so as to provide an opportunity for them to create, inquire and discover a world of politics from different perspectives. Program information is distributed to the education community via mail-outs, workshop seminars, ads in community newspapers, ATA newsletters, teachers' conventions, radio and television advertisements and the Assembly website (www.assembly.ab.ca).

Staff have provided Alberta teachers with program information at the following conventions: Central Alberta Teachers' Convention, ATA Social Studies Conference, Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention, Northeast Teachers' Convention and the North Central Teachers' Convention.

Workshops and orientation sessions also provide an opportunity for teachers to meet the LAO staff to acquaint themselves with the program and the site. More importantly, they help foster a network among fellow teachers. These sessions are an invaluable source of information that facilitate the sharing and development of ideas, resources and teaching methods that help make the SATL week a rich and rewarding experience.

As a member of the Inquiring Minds site-based schools we collaborate with other site co-ordinators to provide teacher in-service workshops throughout the year. These





workshops provide information about week-long programs and each site's unique features. Current members include There's a Heifer in Your Tank school, University of Alberta Senate U school, John Walter Museum school, Royal Alberta Museum school, Petro-Canada zoo school, Edmonton Oilers ice school, Fort Edmonton park school, city hall school, Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium school, green school at the Devonian Botanic Garden and SATL.

ENROLMENT



ENROLMENT

Tables 1 and 2 list the schools and the number of participants enrolled in the program. Some schools had multiple classes participate.

Table 1: Program Participants

(A+)

Years	Classes	Students	Teachers	Volunteers
2006-07	33	709	40	498
2007-08	32	686	35	339
2008-09	33	747	35	426
2009-10	33	769	39	350
2010-11	34	860	40	469



Table 2: Participating Schools

School	Class Numbers	Student Numbers	Area
Belgravia School	1	33	Edmonton
Bisset School	2	53	Edmonton
Boyle School	1	22	Boyle
Brookside School	1	34	Edmonton
Camilla School	1	19	Rivière Que Barre
Centennial School	1	25	Wetaskiwin
Clara Tyner School	1	26	Edmonton
Dr. Donald Massey School	2	68	Edmonton
L'École Desrochers School	1	11	Jasper
Eleanor Hall School	1	27	Clyde
EKota School	1	32	Edmonton
Forest Heights School	1	27	Edmonton
George P. Nicholson School	2	65	Edmonton
Hays School	1	7	Hays
H.A. Kostash School	1	20	Smoky Lake
Holy Family School	1	17	Edmonton
Johnny Bright School	1	24	Edmonton
Julia Kiniski School	2	38	Edmonton
Kameyosek School	1	15	Edmonton
Lynnwood School	1	23	Edmonton
Malmo School	1	29	Edmonton
Meyonohk School	1	46	Edmonton
Mundare School	1	25	Mundare
Rideau Park School	1	20	Edmonton
Ridgeview Central School	1	38	La Crête
St. Angela School	3	71	Edmonton
St. Elizabeth School	1	30	Edmonton
W.R. Frose School	1	15	Fawcett
Total	34	860	



DOLLARS AND CENTS



DOLLARS AND CENTS

2010-11 Program Budget

	2010-11 Projected	2010-11 Actual
Revenue		
Legislative Assembly of Alberta Program Fees	*102,000 (18,000)	51,601.10 (21,000.00)
Total	\$84,000	\$30,601.10
Expenses		
Travel	6,000	1,546.15
Postage and Freight	1,000	47.50
Other Labour and Services	69,000	22,077.89
Hosting	1,000	2,685.34
Office Administration/Supplies	10,000	20,721.74
Advertising	15,000	4,522.48
Revenue - Program Fees	(18,000)	(21,000.00)
Total	\$84,000	\$30,601.10

SCHOOL at the LEGISLATURE

Putting Life into Learning



Notes:

- Fiscal year April 1, 2010, to March 31, 2011
- SATL program year runs September 2010 to June 2011
- * Projected expenses to accommodate expenses for out-of-town school travel

Sponsors:

★ Foothills sponsor



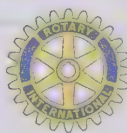
★ Foothills sponsor



★ Prairie sponsor

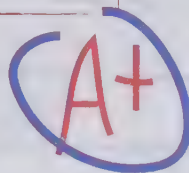


★ In-Kind sponsor



Sponsorship Levels

Mountain	\$25,000 +
Foothills	\$10,000 to \$25,000
Prairie	\$5,000 to \$10,000
In-Kind	





SUMMARY





SUMMARY

We have found that many people are disengaged from politics through a lack of understanding or interest. The SATL program not only inspires students to observe, reflect and better understand our political process but, via the many interviews, presentations and activities, instills energy, passion and enthusiasm, which are brought home for dinner table discussion. Students are now teaching their parents about the political process. This is evident through the many comment letters received from teachers, students and parents alike.



APPENDIX



APPENDIX

TEACHER, PARENT AND STUDENT COMMENTS:

★ "This is an amazing program! I would love to see more chances for schools to participate as we did. I hope that we have the opportunity to participate again next year."

Teacher, L'École St. Angela
Edmonton

★ "I have a renewed sense of pride in being an Albertan. Our history is so interesting, our legislature so beautiful and the people who work there incredible."

Parent, Clara Tyner School
Edmonton

★ "As students from a rural community it is an excellent opportunity for our students to learn about our government."

Parent, Eleanor Hall School
Clyde

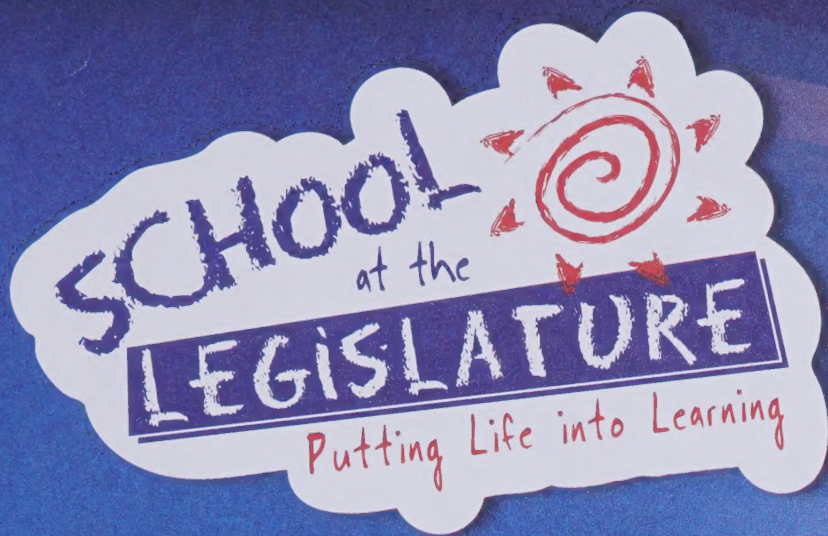
★ "This week had it all! It was fun and exciting. We were able to go almost everywhere in the Legislature."

Student, George P. Nicolson School
Edmonton

★ "While I was here, I felt like a grownup. It was so cool!"

Student, Eleanor Hall School
Clyde





WE THANK OUR SPONSORS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SATL



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